

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 8, please amend the 3rd full paragraph as follows:

C2 As is shown in Fig. 3, the inserting tool comprises an elongated casing 30 enclosing a gear mechanism or movement direction reverser 32, an outer feeding means or outer feed boom 33, an inner feeding means or inner feed boom 34, a proximal plug member 3, a distal plug member 2 and a suture 6 (forming a retracting means). The wiring of the suture 6 through the plug members 2, 3 is clearly shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2.

At page 8, please amend the 4th full paragraph as follows:

C3 An elongated opening extends through the casing 30 in the axial direction. An insertion lever or pusher 36 extends through the opening 35. The insertion lever is slideable in the opening, and is connected to the gear mechanism 32 inside the casing 30, as will be described. Therefore, when the insertion lever is pushed forward it acts as a pusher means for moving the gear mechanism.

At page 11, please amend the first full paragraph as follows:

C4 During the withdrawal the suture is stretched (and a tension force is imparted on the suture), around the first pulley 38 and the second pulley 40 and is held at its proximal end by the clamping force of the second brake means 43. The first brake means 41 serves to keep the clamping block 39, and consequently also the inner feeding means 34, at a place with respect to the suture 6. The breaking force of the first brake means is adjusted to be the same as the breaking force of the second brake means.

At page 12, please amend the 3rd full paragraph as follows:

C5 As seen in Fig. 8, a casing 130, an introducer fitting 131, a tapered end section 145 of the casing 130, and a mouth 146 at the distal end of the tool 102 corresponds to the first embodiment described above. Also, the plug members 2, 3, the suture or retractor 6 and the outer and the inner feeding means or outer feed boom and inner feed boom 133, 134 are initially disposed in the casing 130 as for the first embodiment above. The outer and inner

feeding means runs with a clearance through a bore 173 in the casing, said bore 173 being narrow enough to act as a guide that prevents the feeding means from excessive bending in a case where they are formed from a highly flexible material, such as a thermoplastic. Such highly flexible material for forming the feeding means is advantageous in that it improves the flexibility of the feeding means, thereby providing higher freedom of movement within the wound.

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 12 to 13 as follows:

The inserting tool 102 comprises a gear mechanism or movement direction reverser 130 of a different design than the gear mechanism or movement direction reverser 32 of the first embodiment. According to the second embodiment, the proximal end of the inner feeding means or inner feed boom 134 is formed as a block section 160 protruding towards the viewer of Fig. 8, while the proximal end of the outer feeding means or inner feed boom 133 is formed as a plate section 161 extending axially with respect to the outer feeding means and perpendicularly with respect to the block section 160. The block section 160 extends through an axial opening 162 in the plate section 161 to be axially movable in the opening 162.

Please amend the 4th full paragraph on page 13 as follows:

A cover or retractor 150 being axially slideable in guides 169 in the casing 130 covers the plate section 161, the upper plate 164 and their associated components, as shown in Fig. 8, 10 and 11. Two inner gear racks 170a, 170b, one at each inner side of the cover 150, runs axially inside the cover. When the cover is mounted on the casing, the large gear rings of the double gear wheels 168a, 168b are engaged with the gear racks 170a, 170b, respectively.